## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

June 3, 2009

President Barack Obama The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C. 20005

Dear President Obama,

We first want to thank you for your leadership during this critical moment in American history. We all know how very important it is to break America's addiction to foreign fossil fuels and creating green jobs across our nation. The 111th Congress is fully committed to creating both short and long term solutions to this crisis.

On May 7<sup>th</sup>, the White House announced it will be cutting federal funding for clean hydrogen power by \$100 million, thereby reducing national fuel cell development funding to just \$68.2 million. While we appreciate your commitment to diversifying our national energy supply, we also know that clean, zero emission hydrogen fuel cell energy must be a part of the American solution.

Right now, top engineers and scientists at a General Motors research facility in New York's 29<sup>th</sup> Congressional District are literally building and driving fuel cell vehicles. The capability already exists and the only major obstacle to mainstreaming this technology is the commitment from the American government to focus on building the necessary infrastructure and openly supporting hydrogen fuel cells. But by removing these funds, this facility will almost certainly close; and we will lose jobs now and future potential for solving our energy dependence.

By taking a long term approach to move America from fossil fuel burning vehicles to clean hydrogen fuel cell automobiles, we will create millions of high paying green collar jobs and reinvigorate our struggling auto industry. This is an opportunity of a lifetime, but we need your support to restore this funding and take fuel cell technology into the 21st century. We ask you, please restore these funds.

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Member of Congress

Steve Israel

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Maurice Hinchey Member of Congress

Carol Shea-Porter Member of Congress

Daniel Maffei Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Caroly B. Maloney Member of Congress

Member of Congress

**Brian Higgins** Member of Congress

Louise M. Slaughter Member of Congress

John B. Larson Member of Congress

Jim Himes Member of Congress